Resting places on the routes to Sabarimala Temple.

184. *MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the names of the *thavalams* (resting places) if there are any on the routes leading to Sabarimala temple from Erumeli and Rajampara; and

(*b*) whether they have made any provision for good drinking water in these *thavalams* for the last three years?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI: (*a*) Azhutha, Karimala and Pampa are the *thavalams* in the Erumeli route. Rajampara, Thalaparakotta, Elavumkal and Kollamuzhi are the main *thavalams* in the Rajampara route.

(*b*) Water is available very near the *thavalams* in all the above places except Karimala, Elavumkal and Thalaparakotta. The feasibility of supplying water at these places is under consideration.

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI: May I know from the honourable member how long the question of supplying water at Karimala, Elavumkal and Thalaparakotta, has been under consideration?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI: I cannot exactly say for how long the question has been under consideration, but I know that it is under the consideration of the Devaswom Department at present.

Supply of drinking water to Sabarimala pilgrims.

185. *MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the number of pilgrims who had been to Sabarimala for the last *Makaravilakku*;

(*b*) whether they are aware that the pilgrims were put to extreme difficulties for want of accommodation and good drinking water at Sabarimala;

(*c*) whether they have ever considered the question of supplying good drinking water to the pilgrims; and

(*d*) if so, whether they have any definite proposal for sufficient supply of good drinking water to the pilgrims at Sabarimala?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI: (*a*) About 50,000.

(*b*) The answer is in the negative.

(*c*) & (*d*). Arrangements have been made for the supply of good drinking water from the Kumbalam thodu by means of pipes. The feasibility of supplying water from the Kallar river is under consideration by the Devaswom Commissioner.

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLI: Sir, may I know how the Government arived at this figure 50,000?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI: The figure was furnished by the Devaswom Commissioner, Sir.

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